

Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 ISLAMA 02795 221017Z

43

ACTION NEA-12

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 IO-14 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03

INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03

SS-20 USIA-15 AID-20 SCA-01 DPW-01 DRC-01 SR-02 ORM-03

/154 W

----- 052757

R 220935Z MAR 74

FM AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3881

INFO AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

AMEMBASSY DACCA

AMEMBASSY KATHMANDU

AMEMBASSY LONDON

USMISSION USUN

USMISSION GENEVA

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE ISLAMABAD 2795

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, SREF, PK, IN, BD

SUBJ: REPATRIATION PROCESS IN SOUTH ASIA

REF: ISLAMABAD 856, DACCA 799

SUMMARY: MORE THAN 250,000 POW'S, BENGALLEES AND NON-BENGALLEES HAVE BEEN RELOCATED BY UNHCR AIRLIFT AND OTHER MEANS SINCE AUGUST DELHI AGREEMENT. MOVEMENT OF TWO OF THE THREE COMPONENTS WILL SOON BE COMPLETED, WITH LAST PLANE-LOAD OF BENGALLEES DUE TO LEAVE KARACHI IN LATE MARCH AND LAST OF REMAINING 16,000 POW'S REPATRIATED BY END OF APRIL IF PRESENT RATE IS CONTINUED. TRANSFER OF LAST 50,000 NON-BENGALLEES TO PAKISTAN, HOWEVER, IS STILL BOGGED DOWN OVER ADMINISTRATIVE PROBLEMS AND APPARENT LACK OF GOP-BDG AGREEMENT ON THE 25,000 HARDSHIP QUOTA. END SUMMARY.

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 ISLAMA 02795 221017Z

1. OVER 250,000 PERSONS HAVE BEEN TRANSFERRED UNDER THE AGUSUT 1973 DELHI AGREEMENT, ACCORDING TO ICRC ISLAMABAD AND MFA SOURCES. TOTALS AS OF MARCH 19 INCLUDE: 74,880 POW'S AND CIVIL INTERNEES REPATRIATED BY GOI AND 113,250 BENGALLEES AND 64,240 NON-BENGALLEES TRANSPORTED BY UNHCR AIRLIFT AND SOVIET VESSEL. (IN ADDITION 10,000 NON-BENGALLEES IN NEPAL NOT COVERED UNDER AGREEMENT HAVE BEEN MOVED IN UNHCR AIRLIFT, ANOTHER 11-12,000 FROM NEPAL BY GOP-ARRANGED AIRLIFT AND A FURTHER 1,500-2,000 FROM BURMA BY VARIOUS MEANS.) THOSE REMAINING TO BE MOVED INCLUDE 5-10,000 BENGALLEES WHOM MFA PREDICTS WILL ALL BE MOVED BY LATE MARCH PLUS APPROXIMATELY 16,000 POW'S WHO WILL HAVE BEEN REPATRIATED BY END OF APRIL IF THEY CONTINUE TO ARRIVE AT CURRENT RATE, PLUS UNDETERMINED NUMBER OF NON-BENGALLEES FROM BANGLADESH.

2. NON-BENGALLEE CLEMENT OF TRANSFER OPERATION CONT VUES TO BE SLOWED DOWN BY ADMINISTRATIVE DIFFICULTIES AND APPARENT LACK OF GOP-BDG AGREEMENT REGARDING HARDSHIP CATEGORY. GOP EXPECTS IT WILL END UP WITH TOTAL OF ABOUT 130-140,000. AROUND 24,000 HAVE COME FROM NEPAL AND BURMA; 25,000 ARE TO COME IN HARDSHIP CATEGORY; AND AN ADDITIONAL 25,000 OR SO ARE EXPECTED FROM THOSE GOP HAS APPROVED OR WILL APPROVE IN FIRST THREE DELHI AGREEMENT CATEGORIES. OF THIS TOTAL, ICRC ESTIMATES THAT ABOUT 40,000 WILL REQUIRE RELIEF ASSISTANCE.

3. ONE PROBLEM IN MOVING NON-BENGALLEES IS SHEER NUMBER OF BANGLADESH APPLICATIONS; ICRC HAS RECEIVED APPLICATIONS COVERING ABOUT 535,000 PERSONS OF WHICH THEY CALCULATE ABOUT 135,000 ARE DUPLICATES. MFA DIRECTOR FOR SOUTH ASIA AND REPATRIATION ABDUL WAHEED TOLD EMBOFF MARCH 21 THAT 82,890 GOP CLEARANCES HAVE BEEN GRANTED (OF WHICH 64,240 ALREADY MOVED - SEE ABOVE) AND THAT GOP HAS 69,000 APPLICATIONS UNDER FIRST THREE CATEGORIES STILL TO BE PROCESSED, OF WHICH PAKS ESTIMATE ONLY ABOUT 7,000 WILL QUALIFY, FOR A TOTAL OF ABOUT 90,000 ACCEPTED BY PAKISTAN UNDER FIRST THREE CATEGORIES.

4. ANOTHER ADMINISTRATIVE DIFFICULTY CITED BY ICRC
LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 03 ISLAMA 02795 221017Z

ISLAMABAD CHIEF REP MARTIN IS PROBLEM FACED BY BDG IN TRACING THOSE NON-BENGALLEES WHOSE APPLICATIONS HAVE BEEN APPROVED. MARTIN HAD EARLIER ESTIMATED 13,000 AS UNTRACEABLE OR DUPLICATES (ISLAMABAD REFTTEL) BUT TOLD EMBOFF MARCH 18 THAT SOME OF THESE ARE NOW SHOWING UP AND ASKING FOR TRANSPORTATION TO PAKISTAN.

5. EMBASSY HAS RECEIVED CONFLICTING REPORTS ABOUT STATUS

OF HARDSHIP CATEGORY. DACCA REFTEL REPORTED SOME OPTIMISM THAT THE TWO GOVERNMENTS WOULD SOON COME TO AGREEMENT, AND MFA DIRECTOR ABDUL WAHEED ALSO SEEMED CONFIDENT ON MARCH 21 THAT THIS PROBLEM WOULD BE WORKED OUT. WAHEED ASSERTED, IN FACT, THAT SOME 1,500 PERSONS IN HARDSHIP CATEGORY HAD ALREADY BEEN MOVED. HE EXPLAINED THAT THEY WERE AMONG THOSE GRANTED ENTRY PERMITS BY GOP IN HARDSHIP CATEGORY, WHOM BDG HAD REFUSED TO ALLOW TO LEAVE. BDG LATER CHANGED ITS MIND, WAHEED SAID, AND GAVE ICRC DACCA PERMISSION TO ARRANGE FOR THEIR TRANSPORT WITHOUT INFORMING GOP. HE ADDED THAT GOP HAD ALSO GRANTED CLEARANCE RECENTLY TO ANOTHER 4,600 IN HARDSHIP CATEGORY FROM AMONG COLLABORATORS IN BANGLADESH, BUT THAT THERE HAD BEEN NON REACTION FROM BDG.

6. MARTIN OF ICRC, HOWEVER, TOLD EMBOFF MARCH 18 THAT BDG POSITION ON HARDSHIP CATEGORY STILL IS TO FAVOR TRANSFER OF "INNOCENT" CASES OF BIHARI DESTITUTES AND THAT IT VIEWS COLLABORATORS AS CRIMINALS. GOP, ON OTHER HADN, FAVORS APPLYING HARDSHIP CATEGORY TO POLITICAL COLLABORATORS AND FORMER MEMBERS OF EAST PAKISTAN CIVILIAN ARMED FORCES. MARTIN PRESUMED THAT DEADLOCK WOULD BE BROKEN ONLY AT TOP LEVEL, PERHAPS AT TRILATERAL MINISTERIAL MEETING SCHEDULED FOR DELHI IN EARLY APRIL.

7. MARTIN SAID PAKISTAN ICRC STAFF, WHICH INCLUDED 20 SWISS IN DECEMBER, WAS NOW DOWN TO 10. ONCE BENGALIEE TRANSFER IS COMPLETED, IT WILL BE FURTHER REDUCED TO FIVE TO SIX. THREE MORE WILL GO BY END OF APRIL IF POW'S HAVE ALL BEEN RETURNED.
BYROADE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: REPATRIATION, REFUGEE RESETTLEMENT, AIR TRANSPORTATION, POW RETURN
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 22 MAR 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: morefirh
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974ISLAMA02795
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D740061-0562
From: ISLAMABAD
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19740323/aaaaavhu.tel
Line Count: 146
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION NEA
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: ISLAMABAD 856, DACCA 799
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: morefirh
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 19 JUN 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <19 JUN 2002 by kelleyw0>; APPROVED <03 JUL 2002 by morefirh>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: REPATRIATION PROCESS IN SOUTH ASIA
TAGS: PFOR, SREF, PK, IN, BD
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005